

ALL HANDS DISAPPOINTED.
THE RACE DECLARED OFF.

CAME

A POSTPONEMENT WAS SUGGESTED BUT CONSENT WAS REFUSED—NOTHING STRONGER THAN LIGHT AIRS ALL DAY—THE BLACK CUT-

TER HAD THE BETTER OF THE
START, BUT THE BRONZE-BOT-
TOMED SLOOP OUTSAILED
HER TO THE OUTER
MARK—TO TRY AGAIN
TO-MORROW

All those who went out beyond Sandy Hook yesterday to see a race between the champion yachts of England and America for the possession of the America's Cup were disappointed. At no time in the course of the day was there any prospect that the race could be held within the time limit of six hours, and the yachts moved over a scarcely ruffled sea in light airs which blew them slowly over the shining rounded shield of the ocean in a hopeless race against time. Day faded away beyond the Highlands of the Navesink, and lights flared out from all the fading headlands, the fleet of excursion steamers and tugs went home and left the dispirited competitors alone on the night-covered waters. Though the race was no race and cannot count in the contests for the great international trophy, yet it proved one thing, and that was that in exceedingly light airs and under conditions which it was said would show the Valkyrie at her best she was no match for the Vigilant. The great white sloop seems to have all weather and winds for her own. What she did yesterday was in no way surprising to those who saw her last summer, in the run from New-London to Newport, move with scarcely a breath of air majestically through the fleet. But to every one it was a chance of contrasting her powers of sailing in light airs over smooth seas with those of the Valkyrie. If there was any lingering doubt in the minds of yachtsmen as to the relative merits of the two boats, even the gentle ephemeris of yesterday would have been sufficient to settle the question. Some water sprite seemed to be beneath the keel of the Vigilant and to move her along at a rate for which the gentle wind was not accountable. The Valkyrie, quick in stays, seeming to spin around on the heel whenever she came about, moved forward over the shining expanse of the water with a truly remarkable speed; but what was her speed compared to that of the Vigilant? The White sloop from Bristol slowly and surely went ahead of her, and drew out beyond her till twilight saw her far in the lead, and night closed down upon an unfinished race.

A FAIR TEST IN LIGHT BREEZES.

The wind, what there was of it, was not fluky. It hauled a trifle to the westward, but not much, and there was nothing to prevent a fair test of the boat in light breezes, and that test was made.

When the boats went down to the Hook yesterday morning and passed out to the lightship, a heavy mist hung over the waters, and the wind blew lightly from the northwest. The mist was only that of the morning, however, and when the flagship May and the fleet of excursion steamers came out it had rolled away, and all the broad sea lay sparkling in the sun.

Then began a long and weary wait. The wind was blowing at the rate of three and a half miles an hour, but increasing a little. The two yachts hovered about above the starting line, the Vigilant in tow and the Valkyrie moving under canvas. Time passed slowly, and the hour set for starting the race, 11:25 o'clock, came and went, and yet there

was no sign of wind such as would warrant a hope that the race could be made within the six-hour limit. Noon came and still no wind. Then another hour dragged slowly along, bringing in its course no better prospect. The fleet of excursion steamers lay motionless, as did the big steam yachts, and waited. All the time the Valkyrie and Vigilant were moving slowly about.

LORD DUNRAVEN WANTED TO TRY FOR A RACE.

Shortly after 1 o'clock, there being no prospect of a wind, the May hoisted a signal to the yachts, which meant, "Do you consent to a postponement of the race for to-day?" The Vigilant at once hoisted an answering signal, which meant, "Yes."

The Valkyrie did not respond, and, after waiting a short time, the May ran down to her to

Lord Dunraven said that he desired that an attempt be made to sail the race. After his there was, of course, nothing to do but to make an attempt to sail it.

The May returned to her position, and all the Regatta Committee whistled for a breeze. At 1.30 the wind increased to nearly nine miles an hour, and at 1.35 the preparatory gun was fired, and the boats began to manoeuvre.

A signal flag had been hoisted on the day, signifying that the course would be fifteen miles south by west and return. The yachts were close together, sailing around each other, and watching each other warily.

At 1:45 the signal to start was given. The alkerry had the best of the Vigilant in the jockeying before the start, because of her quickness in stays, and went over the line first.

The wind had dropped now to about six and half miles an hour, but the British champion showed that she was indeed a fast boat in light winds, and sailing close to the wind increased her lead on the Vigilant, besides improving her inward position.

A CONTEST IN TACKING.

Both yachts had up fore-staysails, jibs and rib-topsails, and their biggest club-topsails, the Vigilant, for some reason, had up a baby rib-topsail, while the Valkyrie had up an intermediate jib-topsail.

They crossed on the port tack, but hardly had they got over when almost simultaneously they came about on the starboard tack.

The Vigilant seemed extremely sluggish in comparison with the Valkyrie.

After standing a short time on the starboard

ck, they came on the port tack and stood in at the shore. The Valkyrie pointed much higher on the Vigilant, the latter boat not appearing care to point high or try to. She kept good full, and began to rapidly outfoot the Valkyrie, though getting further and further toward all the time. The wind hauled a trifle to the westward, and the Valkyrie gave up her sea sailing and gave her sails a better full. So they stood in toward the land. The Valkyrie apparently did not like the way things were going, and luffed up as if she were going to tack.

tack, but the Vigilant showing no sign that
e was going to follow her, she filled away
ain. After a little time she made another
nt of being about to tack, but the Vigilant
ve no sign, and the two still stood on the
rt tack. Finally the Valkyrie did come on